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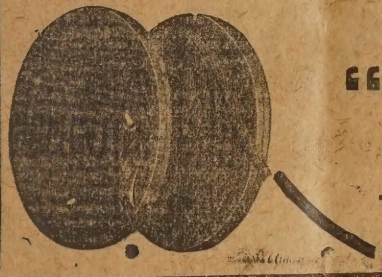

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MARITIME MINING RECORD

Vol. 22 Stellarton, N. S., July 9th., 1919 No. 1

BRITISH MINERS' SCHEME.

Mr. Henry H. Slasser, barrister, the Standing Counsel of the Miners' Federation, submitted a draft Parliamentary bill which, he said, embodied the Miners' Federation scheme for the nationalisation of mines and minerals in Great Britain.

The bill was described as a bill to nationalise the mines and minerals of Great Britain, and to provide for the national distribution and sale of coal and other minerals.

Clause 1 provided for the establishment of a Mining Council consisting of a president, to be known as Minister of Mines, and twenty members, ten to be appointed by his Majesty and ten by the Miners' Federation.

Members of the Council, it was provided, should be appointed for five years, and should be eligible for reappointment.

The salary of the Minister of Mines was to be at the rate of £2,000 a year, and he was to be provided with a Parliamentary Secretary at a salary of £1,500 a year.

Clause 3 proposed to reserve to the employees of the mines trade union rights and all civil and political rights of action as if they were not employed by his Majesty.

Clause 5 provided for the taking over by the Mining Council in perpetuity of every colliery and mine and all coal, authracite, lignite, ironstone, shale, fireclay, limestone, or other mineral, and all rights and easements arising out of or necessary to the working of any mines or the winning of any mineral.

Clause 6 provided that the Mining Council should purchase the mines of Great Britain, provided always that the value of any royalty, lordships, or wayleaves should not be taken into account in computing the price, for all of which no compensation should be paid.

According to clause 7, ten Commissioners should be appointed for the purpose of assessing the purchase price of mines, three of them to be nominated by the Miners' Federation and three by the Mining Association of Great Britain. In the event of the Commissioners failing to agree as to the purchase price of a particular mine or its associated property at the expiration of twelve months the clause provided that the Chairman of the Commissioners should himself fix the price.

It was provided in clause 9 that the purchase price of the mines, exclusive of associated properties, should be compiled by ascertaining the average annual number of tons of minerals actually raised during the five years preceding August 4, 1914; provided that, as regards coalmines, in no case should the maximum purchase price be taken at more than a capital sum equal to one year's ouput at 12s. per ton when less than 100,000 tons had been raised on the average for each of the five preceding years: or at a capital sum equal to one year's output at 10s. per ton when more than 100,000 tons had been raised per annum during the previous five years.

Clause 10 provided that the purchase price of any mine, and such of its associated properties as might be purchased, should be paid by the Council in Mines Purchase Stocks, to be called Guaranteed State Mines Stocks.

It was provided in clause 11 that the Mining Council might compulsorily purchase land or acquire such rights over land as required.

According to clause 12 the mining industry must divide Great Britain into two districts, with a District Mining Council of ten members in each district. It was provided that half of the membership of each District Council should be appointed by the Miners' Federation of Great Britain.

It was also provided that the District Mining Council should have power to appoint Pit Councils for each mine or group of mines, which should also have ten members, half appointed by the Miners' Federation.

Finally, it was provided in clause 21 "that it shall be the duty of the Mining Council to ensure that there is a sufficient supply of fuel at reasonable prices throughout Great Britain." It was proposed that the Mining Council, or any local authority or Government department acting on their behalf, should establish stores and depots.

UNEXPECTED HAPPENINGS.

Things that never could happen have made up the greater part of history during the past two years. The impossibility, first, of a great world war, and, second, of the participation of this country in it, are striking examples. Io long time past we were viewing the menace of bolshevism with disinterested eyes; the substitution of the autocracy of demagogy for the less revolting autocracy of czarism might take place in Russia, but never in this land of the free. Every day, however, gives fresh evidence that those who would win by the bomb what they could not attain by the ballot are no strangers to our shores. Seattle, Washington, Cleveland, Toledo, Winnipeg make the warning too clear to be ignored. Advocates of destruction toil while friends of construction dream in the happy land of what should be. A conspiracy of silence will not down the facts; they must be faced and conquered by the patriotic business men of the country. This is the biggest job ahead of the nation today. Coal men are Americans first, business getters second. Get into the game!—Coal Trade Journal.

The Bible has been prohibited in Bolshevist prisons as a "counter-revolutionary" book, states a returned prisoner from Petrograd.

MARITIME MINING RECORD.

THE MARITIME MINING RECORD is published the second and fourth Wednesday in each month.

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R. DRUMMOND, PUBLISHER.

STELLARTON, N S. July 9, 1919

BRITISH TRADE UNIONISTS.

Under the captions, "Labor, Liberty or Licence," the Glasgow Herald of 7th June has a couple of articles referring to the attempts of the extremists in the labor ranks to seize the reins of power.

Referring first to the attempts of the uncontrollable section of the Laborites to secure control not only of the police but the military, the Herald says:—

Obviously both these bodies above all others must be responsible to the community (as represented by the powers that be) and not to any section of it. Yet Labour—or the active part of it—is plainly out to use the trade union lever to capture both the soldiers and the policemen for party ends. We do not say that they want to turn the civil and military arm directly against property—not for a start, at any rate—but they clearly desire at the very least to ensure that the practical executive shall not be against the agitators when the day of revolution, to which they look forward, dawns.

Their attempt to "nobble" the Army was particularly weak and futile, but it reveals their mischievous intentions.

Early in the year, when the ciuntry was full of strikes and rumours of strikes, with threatened mutinies in the Army, the military authorities, as in duty bound, thought it time to take stock and see where they stood. With this object in view they issued a circular inviting information from commanding officrs. As summarised by Mr. Adamson in the course of his complaint in the House of Commons a week ago, this document called for weekly reports under the following heads:—(1) Whether the troops would respond to orders for assisting to preserve the public peace; (2) whether they would assist in strike-breaking; (3) whether they would parade for draft overseas, particularly to Russia; (4) what the effect was on soldiers of Army Order 14 relating to demobilisation; (5) whether there was any growth of trade unionism among the troops; and (6) what effect outside trade unions had upon them.

Now, in all this, what has Labour to complain about? And what did the Labour newspaper and the man who, through it, betrayed a confidential document, hope to gain by the discovery of their mare's nest?

Apparently they fix on the reference to "strike-breaking" in item 2. Mr. Churchill was warned that he was playing with fire, and was making a a huge mistake if he imagined that the British Army, "consisting largely of trade unionists," would consent to "shoot down fellow trade unionists."

But did "strike breaking" imply shooting? We think not? And if it did, would not the tactics of the strikers themselves have been responsible?

Mr. Churchill admitted that the use of the word "strike-breaking" was unfortunate, and went so far as to say that he would regard the employment of soldiers in the capacity of "black legs" as an illegal and monstrous invasion of the liberties of the subject. But what about the protection of the liberties of the subject from the effects of trade union license?

At the time the War Office circular was issued, was the policy of the Labour agitators not to hold the entire country up to ransom And would it have been either "illegal" or "monstrous" for the soldiers, in the event of the threatend railway strike for instance, to have manned our railways and maintained the necessary communications in the interests of the public or protected the railwaymen willing to do so?

No, no. The nation is not thus to be gulled into impotence. As between Capital and Labour it is out to see fair play, but neither Capital nor Labour can be allowed to paralyse the industries of the country whenever they choose to take it into their heads to do so.

That is why both the Army and the police force must be kept free of Trade Unionism. Fancy what a time Bill Sykes would have if our policemen either belonged to or were affiliated with the Operative Burglars and House Breakers' Union!

And what was the alternative to the circular in which the War Office figured as anxious inquirer? Only one was suggested. It was that Mr. Churchill should have secured the co-operation of the Trade Union Committee, as he did when he was Minister of Munitions. Would this have been an alternative?

When we remember the facts of the case we are bound to say "No." For in January last, when the circular was issued, was not this same Trade Union Committee, to whom Mr. Churchill is now told he might have toadied, bewailing the fact that Labour was in the hands of irresponsible agitators and itself was powerless to ensure order? And who then was left to act when occasion arose but the authorities through the military?

In this matter—as in others—Labour has behaved itself like a spoiled child. Wartime coddling has had its inevitable result. The more Labour gets to-day the more it wants. It never was better off, yet it never asked for more. There is, indeed, no satisfying its demands. It battens on agitation, and seems to grow in arrogance as it goes on puffing itself up on its spoils.

Does it forget that there is a bursting point?

LABOR ZEALOTS.

Certain officials of the Nova Scotia district of the U. M. W. during the period of the Winnipeg strike, and after the imprisonment of certain of the

leaders, those suspected of sedition, sent a telegram to Sir Robert Borden saying if these leaders were not immediately released they would strive to bring about a general strike over Canada, in which the C. B. miners would take part. Of course the rank and file gave these C. B. U. M. W. leaders no authority to send away such telegram. To ask for authority would not be in keeping with the leaders' notions of true democracy. You see they have a way of their own, after the fashion of their ideas of real democracy. That well known paper the Winnipeg Tribune reads this timely lecture in reference to the C. B. U. M. W. leaders' actions:—

A general strike cannot be permitted to succeed at any point in Canada, not for the sake of capital any more than for the sake of labor, but for the sake of Canada's right to exist as a free country.

Free institutions must destroy a general strike or a general strike will destroy free institutions. A general strike carried to its logical conclusion, would leave the women and children of Canada, including the strikers' women and children without food or clothing next winter.

The general strike proposes to subject the non-combatant population of Canada to sufferings in peace time comparable to the sufferings that an invading army inflicts on the non-combatant population of France and Belgium in war time.

The zealot who would teach labor to seek a remedy for grievances thru the general strike instead of thru the ballot box is a foe to labor and a foe to Canada. The promoters of a general strike have no right to claim any protection from the principles of constitutional liberty in their work of attempting to destroy all liberty. The minute that Europeans in origin or ideal begin to talk general strike in this country, the general strikers and their friends must be strong enough to put the authorities of government in jail or the government should be strong enough to put all the advocates of a general strike in jail and keep them there.

FORGOTTEN HISTORICAL EVENTS.

Commenting on an article in Saturday Night, under the above caption, the Canadian Mining Journal, which has now as associate editor, Mr. F. H. Gray, formerly an official of the Dominion Coal Co. and later of "Scotia," says among other things:

"We believe the Abercrombie Railroad, which ran from Stellarton mines of the General Mining Association to Pictou Landing, and on which the coal for the bunkers of the 'Royal William' was doubtless carried was the first steam railroad in America, and some years ago the original steam engine was taken away to be exhibited at some United States exposition—we believe at Chicago—and never came back to Pictou County. That old engine should have remained in Canada, and should have been given as honorable a place as is given the "Rocket" in Barrow-in-Furness Station.

How many Canadians realize that the coal mines of Nova Scotia were supplying coal to Boston and New York and the "British Provinces" long before it was found that anthracite would burn, and before Pittsburg was.

It is interesting to recall that Sydney, N.S., narrowly escaped being called Pittsburg, which was the name proposed for it by Governor Desbarres."

The Record regrets that it is forced to correct the belief of the Journal that the railroad from the Albion Mines to Abercrombie was the first steam railroad in America. Several years ago an engineer residing in Cumberland County, N. S., who wished to criticise a paper, written by another engineer on "Railroads" wrote the editor of the Record asking if the Albion Mines Railroad was not the first on the American continent. We were forced to tell him that it was not, that a railroad had been in operation in the States two or three years before the one in Nova Scotia. We cannot at this writing relate the story as we gave it to him, as the yearly volumes of the Record are in the hands of the binders.

The "Samson" was the name of the locomotive referred to. It was sent to the Chicago Exhibition and its veteran driver, Geo. Davidson, went with it. The "Samson" is now in all probability in some museum across the line. The reason it did not come back was that a cute American made an offer for the curiosity, which offer was accepted. When first employed the "Samson" did the work expected of it well. That work was the hauling of three ton waggons from and to the collieries. These three ton waggons did duty for about fifty years, which goes to show that improved railway transportation was affected by evolutionary and not revolutionary methods. There were no socialists in N. S. in these days and will you believe it, the people if a little uncouth, were uncommonly contented.

Referring to the projected nationalization of the coal mines, a reputable British paper says:—

We were warned in the House on Monday that it may be necessary, because of the restricted output, to decrease the coal rations for manufacturers and for domestic consumption. If this is what happens under Government control of the mines, all we can say is that the question of nationalisation will have to be very carefully considered. The railways are expected to lose a great number of millions, and now we have the coal mines in the same position. At the same time we have the Post Office employees in conference saying that they object to the Post Office making a profit. All this makes it very difficult for those of us who have not opposed nationalisation, and we should like some explanation.

The publication of an estimate of £26,400,000 for the coal-mining industry must be something of a surprise to the general public. That is the amount which the Government want to meet the provisions of the Sankey report for increased wages for the miners and the promised reduction of hours. An answer given in the House of Commons shows also that the output of the mines per man is steadily decreasing, notwithstanding the increased wages. The reduction of hours has not yet begun. Now, the case of the miners was that the industry could easily stand the increased charges. This estimate shows that the Treasury, at all events, has not much faith in the promise of an increased output to meet the situation.

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CHAPTERS XXXVII to XLVII. Pages 313 to 368 treat respectively on: By Products of Coal—Vast increase in Mineral Wealth—Quallty of N. Scotia Coal—Mine Explosions and Fires—Government Assistance to Mining—Technical College, Mining Schools—Coal Companies of Nova Scotia—New Seams, Stellarton—Nova Scotia Coal Sales, 1811-1917—Staff of Mines Department and Some Production Comparisons.

STILL MORE NOTICES OF THE BOOK.

Favorable, indeed flattering notices are being received of the book issued by the editor of the Mining Record. That youthful modesty which is, as many know, a characteristic of the author, forbids a rehearsal of many of the nice things said. At the same time, that arrogance, also characteristic of youth, impels him not to hide them all in a napkin. Here is a little coincidence. With the same mail came two notices and both from McInnes's, one a former District Superintendent of the Dominion Coal Coy., and now a wholesale coal merchant in Montreal, the other from a highly respected citizen of Port Morien:

"While in Cape Breton two weeks ago I got a copy of your new book. It is very interesting—brings back the old days. The coming generations will find it an accurate story of the periods just passed, when Nova Scotia came into her own as a coal producer and as a pillar in our industrial development."—Mr. A. McInnes.

And this from Daniel McInnes: "I congratulate you on your authorship—the right man in the right place. No other man could write such a history without the knowledge you possess.

And these:

R. McDougald, Westville: . . . All that comes from your pen is always to the point, and within the limits of human knowledge, accurate. I an very glad that you undertook to conserve the acquisitions of a life time of special study and observation in a book. It will no doubt prove helpful to many a Canadian mining student.

John Moffatt, Dominion, C. B.: I have read your book and am convinced that to the great work accomplished by you in the sphere of labor, in the past, you have added another service which will endure for many years, and be often quoted from. The Province of Nova Scotia is indebted to you in many ways, and this well written book adds to that obligation.

This from another C. B. correspondent:—"The book made a hit. It has proved itself a success. I have heard not a few complimentary remarks, both regarding the book and the author. I hope the 2nd and the 3rd editions will be called for before long.

Thomas Cantley, Chairman of the "Scotia" Board, writes: "I wish to congratulate you on your book. It is certainly creditable, well printed, good clear type, in short, the binding, the size of the volume, and general make-up leave nothing to be desired. Altogether it is a most creditable production, and I have no hesitation in saying that it will be looked on as an authoritative history of the Iron and Coal industry in this Province, the value of which as the years go by will be continually enhanced, and in it you are leaving that which will keep your name alive so long as Nova Scotia is interested in civilization's great basic industry."

Mark Workman, President of the Dominion Steel Corporation writes: "I have not had an opportunity of carefully perusing the book but I feel constrained to say after a preliminary examination that the work appears to be comprehensive in its scope and excellently arranged and the subject, ordinarily technical, is treated in an interesting and readable manner."

R. P. Fraser, Pictou.—"Please send me two more of your books "Minerals and Mining, Nova Scotia", which I want for sending to some mining friends. I think your book a very interesting history of the mines and minerals of Nova Scotia. Your account of the development and expansion of our basic minerals of "Coal and Iron" since the Foord Pit disaster is good and very correct. The farmer may claim he feeds us but where would agriculture be were it not for the implements supplied from the basic minerals."

J. Macgillivray, Receiver and Manager, Inverness Railway & Coal Co.: I have been reading your book "Minerals and Mining, Nova Scotia", and find it highly interesting and instructive, containing, as it does, much useful information in very readable form.

Henry McArel, Glace Bay.—"Minerals and Mining duly received. I am much pleased with this interesting book"

A. S. McNeil, District Superintendent, Glace Bay: I have received a copy of your book. It is very interesting, instructive, and to the point. I congratulate you on the completion of this valuable work and trust it will meet with the appreciation which it deserves.

The inimitable O'Dell, Glace Bay.—I have waited until I had quite finished reading your book before seeking a niche in your gallery of immortals.

I can only say that on closing the volume last night I could almost imagine I had written it myself. Higher praise than this I cannot offer. Hoping that this may not be your last word on Nova Scotia's chief industries.

Hon. E. H. Armstrong, Commissioner of Mines: "I have no hesitancy in saying that so far as I was able to glance over your book, it was very readable and I enjoyed it very much. Whilst I appreciate it would have entailed a very great deal of extra labor, I regret that an index does not accompany the book. I always miss an index. I think it would have added a great deal to the value of your very interesting book. The pains and care which you have taken to gather so much reading matter, particularly of local interest, is most praiseworthy. My wonder is that you have had the time to have collected it as well as you have done. However, I have no doubt it will supply a place in our mining literature that will redound to the credit of its author.

Chief Justice, Robt. E. Harris.—"I have been perusing your recent publication, "Minerals and Mining, Nova Scotia," which I have enjoyed very much. I consider it a valuable addition to the literature on that subject."

W. A. Winfield, Supt. Mar. T. & T. Co.—"The reading of "Minerals and Mining" afforded me much pleasure, and a great deal of information, in many cases respecting properties that I was already acquainted with. I shall keep my copy on my shelves for reference purposes, for a knowledge of districts liable to development from mining, as from other industries, is of great use to us in our business, as an aid to forecasting our probable future requirements and development. I trust, as I am sure will be the case, that your volume will have a large circulation, and be the means of directing more capital to the possibilities of the minerals in the province."

A. McDonald, District Supt., Dom. Coal Co'y.—". . . I am fortunate in having so valuable a book, and wish to say that the province is much richer by having such a work, the production of one who has made mining a life study. In your "comparisons of outputs", it might, possibly, have been well had you stated that so far as the Dominion Coal Company is concerned, 1917 was a one shift year, as against double shift in previous years."

A. A. McKinnon, Ry. Dept., Springhill—"Have read "Minerals and Mining" with much interest and profit. Am greatly impressed with the author's splendid optimism regarding the future development of the mineral resources of Nova Scotia. The book contains a wonderful fund of useful information hitherto hidden from the writer, who will treasure the book on account of its own worth, as well as for former friendly association with its author."

A New York Promoter:

A day or two since I had the pleasure of receiving from Mr. Robert Fraser a copy of your book, "Minerals and Mining, Nova Scotia". I wish to thank you for having written the book and extend to you my most hearty congratulations upon it. It has already brought about an inquiry among some associates of mine who are interested in the oil business.

G. H. Bain, Mgr. Bank of N. S., Stellarton: ..... "In this connection I might add that I have perused that authority on mining entitled "Minerals and Mining" and found it not only a valuable book on the mineral wealth of Nova Scotia, but, also a very interesting one to read, which cannot be said of similar publications."

R. J. Bell, Gen'l. Mgr. Maritime Coal, Ry. & Power Co.: "I enjoyed reading your book, "Minerals and Mining", very much. I have been long enough employed at the mines in the different districts of the Province to become acquainted with their history, and have talked with many of the old pioneers, especially in the Stellarton district, and as a consequence find your book very interesting.

- Rubs by Rambler. -

The Cape Breton County papers are not all of them wholly bad. Their worst fault is that they are easily led away, or wilfully choose the wrong road, so as to catch, if may be, a vote for the "party." Some of them sadly want judgment. For instance they are carried away by what they think is the eloquence of certain labor leaders the while that eloquence, when analysed, resolves itself into froth. The bigger the great swelling words of the erratic labor leaders the bigger the headlines in which these words are displayed. And yet I never lost hope of them. I rested content in the belief that when the papers referred to began to realize that catering to vain leaders was bringing no support to a particular political party they would give up applauding, as a non-paying investment. But I never thought that any one of them would signalize his return to sanity by so vicious a kick as one of them gave the most talkative of the executive. The G. B. Gazette of the 30th June professed—as per head line—to give full returns of the U. M. W. election. In these returns I looked for the figures for Sec.-Treas. These figures were not visible. Now, I do not say I love the S. T., but I protest against such silently contemptuous treatment. If the Gazette has found out the Sec'y. let the same be said in plain language. One never knows where he will wander when he begins writing. This paragraph was began to lead on to paying tribute to the North Sydney Herald for taking, after long consideration, a stand against the false leading of certain A. M. W. officials. I shall quote from the Herald so that the general community on the north side of Sydney Harbor may know that the action of the Herald is approved of beyond the bounds of North Sydney:—

The announcement that a strike in Cape Breton is being considered as a protest against the arrests at Winnipeg is bad news in more ways than one. The labor leaders in Cape Breton are going in a fair way to ruin the prospects and the future of the men who have trusted them, if they lead them into a strike in support of a number of reckless agitators who came near to putting the Red flag in place of the British flag in one of the most important cities of Canada.

The affair in Winnipeg was a strike only in name; it was a revolution in intentive and in fact. It was an effort to substitute government by a strike committee in place of British government by a Parliament, a Legislative and a City Council.

We have heard it suggested that all the people can be employed if you only cut the day into a sufficient number of shifts. If that is so, why not cut the working day down to four hours, or to two? Then, if the Socialists are right, unemployment would be heard of no more in the land forever.

What shallow and superficial nonsense! What about the cost of production if you put six shifts of men to do the work now being done by three? Do these shallow leaders ever think of that? Can they not see that when they drive up the cost of basic supplies, necessary to all manufactures such as coal and iron, to an unreasonable height, the results come back on themselves like a boomerang in the shape of the higher cost of living. But Socialism has one main object in view; to make it impossible for the present system of business, politics, government—all that we have—to go on. What they would put in its place, once they succeeded in destroying it, the Socialist leaders know no more than we do.

It is up to the labor leaders in Cape Breton to produce some facts and arguments to show the public that there is any cure for the grievances complained of in a five day week or a six hour day.

The plain fact of the matter is that the majority of labor leaders in Canada are touched with the bug of Socialism.

* * * *

The collapse of the strikes in the West, that were chiefly sympathetic, has evidently cooled the ardour of certain labor leaders in the east, for, for fourteen days there has not been a new threat to oust the Murray government including, of course, the Commissioner of Mines, and to bring down the Borden government from what some esteem its impregnable position. The Murray government tried in many ways to propitiate and please certain lofty speaking leaders; indeed, in the opinion of some, its very readiness to make concessions induced the leaders to conclude that the Murray government, in their hands, were as clay in the hands of the potter. If the denunciation of the local government, by certain labor leaders, has the effect of opening Premier Murray's eyes and stiffening a bit his backbone, then it will have served a good purpose, and one never intended. The threat of the labor leaders from C. B. to B. C. was not in the least bit successful in deflecting the federal government from its purpose of strictly maintaining law and order. The "solid" men in the rank and file of labor, as well as the public as a whole, were at Borden's back, and of course there was not the slightest chance of a general sympathetic strike succeeding. The affair at Winnipeg was not really a strike, but an attempt at insurrection and usurpation, by a mob, against the constituted authorities. The government's firm stand in reference to the postal clerks, and the Mayor and Council's firm attitude in reference to the policemen did much to bring the rank and file to their senses. Referring to the attitude of the policemen the Winnipeg Tribune says:—

"Members of the police force took an attitude of open hostility to the laws and regulations laid down by the regularly constituted authority. In other words, a body of men, wearing the uniform of the State, and sworn to obey and defend the laws of the State, assumed to dictate that only in so far as they, or their private masters thought fit, would they conform to the rules laid down to govern them in their public conduct and relations to the State. The attitude of the policemen was intolerable.

"Any acquiescence in the defiance of the policemen meant, so far as the police commission was concerned, that it had abrogated its right to control and that, in Canada there had arisen a recognition of the fallacious right of public employees to dictate to the State—the People—as to how far they (the employees) should, or should not, obey the laws and regulations of the State. But behind the police attitude was something akin to absolute anar-

chy. They placed ahead of the State a brand of loyalty to the mandates of an organization, the tenets of which are avowedly against due recognition of the laws of Canada. The loyalty of the policemen was divided. Therefore they were half-hearted and slothful in the performance of their public duties. The State demands from every public servant, strict obedience and loyal service, whether that service be under Civic, Provincial or Dominion control. Herein is a principle, a departure from which means that the usefulness of the ballot of freedom has departed.

"No one questions the right of public bodies to organize for their betterment. But every citizen who values the preservation of order and the right of The People—The Nations—to rule, does question the right of any public body to affiliate itself with any organization, weak or powerful, the design of which, and the practice of which, is to question the authority of the State.

The police commission exercised patience to the last degree. It gave the policemen every opportunity—chance after chance, indeed—to conform to the laws of the land. The policemen refused and dismissal followed. The police commission acted wisely."

The following from the same source is worthy the endorsement of every Canadian patriot:—

"Public servants, in any capacity, who do not regard public office as a public trust, are a menace to good government. Public servants who do not place the State first, are not wanted. They cannot be faithful to their solemn trust. In the reorganization of our various public bodies, where men and women have shown divided loyalty, the authorities should exercise the greatest care in engaging only such employees as show by their walk and conversation, that they have a high regard for the sanctity of their oath and a sincerity of purpose to be true and faithful servants of the State."

* * * *

Some labor leaders are seemingly of opinion that the louder they talk the more democratic they make themselves appear, and they are helped to this belief by the big headlines given to their loud assertions. The louder the assertion the bigger the headline. It is regrettable that some ill balanced newspapers are lending encouragement to loud swelling words by the prominence given to the brayings in the press. I read the other day, in the Manchester Guardian an article on "democracy" which was arresting and should give labor leaders, of the type that finds C. B. soil congenial, pause. The article shows what true democracy is and what it isn't. It is the "isn't" kind, I fear, which is now in vogue among certain of the leaders. My surprise is that the "isn't" kind of democracy has a fairly large following. Let me give an extract from the article referred to:—

"It is not only in speech that the more democratic cause in any dispute should now find moderation its natural weapon. For several years before the war rebellious or disorderly methods of political agitation were becoming the peculiar property of privileged classes or groups of persons, threatened at last with reduction to the level of ordinary British subjects. The duchesses who vowed they would not lick insurance stamps, but collapsed under the terrors of small fines, offered one small but amusing illustration of the tendency. A graver illustration, and one which has since led to worse things, was the criminal conspiracy of a great many rich and highly placed people in Ulster to defeat a law of the land. It is the best possible thing for democracy that the transference of the habit of occasional disloyalty or illegality from the extreme democratic side to the anti-democratic side should continue. Law and order are now, and will always become more and more, the special charge and instrument of democracy. Indeed, it is only in a State effectively ruled by law that democracy can long exist. For this reason we are sorry to see a proposal by Co-operators to hold by force, apparently, on July 5 a meeting in Platt Fields for which the City Council refused to give permission. The question is not whether the City Council decided wisely or not. The inhabitants of the city put them there to decide, and, however perverse their decision may be, it is the duty of a good democrat to swallow his disappointment at it, this being the only way in which he can morally earn the right to have some other decision of the City Council, which he may approve, respected in turn by those whom it may disappoint or disgust. The weapon of disorder against the decisions of representative bodies, whether Parliament or a city council, may be good enough for a duke or an Ulster Privy Councillor, but it might not be good enough for a Labour man or a Co-operator.

* * *

Nationalization of the British coal mines is not to be arrived at if a large number of people can prevent it. The Coal Association is out with a manifesto showing how the plan may be expected to work, and the injury it will do. Shut your eyes and try to fancy what nationalization of the coal mines in Nova Scotia would be, so long as we had party government of the kind we had before the war. If the coal mines were added to the railways what a busy time the politicians would have and what an increase in the number of applicants for jobs. To me the thought is unthinkable in its horribleness. Here are the Coal Associations' views:—

There are at least three sound reasons for the belief that coal will cost more if the State buys out the coal owners and nationalises their mines.

First, the State will have a monopoly, and the officials controlling the industry will be able to sell at what price and on what terms they choose. Traders, merchants, shippers, and the public generally will have to take what coal is sent to them and pay the price demanded—however unsuitable the quality—or go without! They cannot go elsewhere, for there will be no competition.

Secondly, if the mines are bought out at the taxpayers' expense, including the non-paying collieries, whose coal is expensive to win, the interest on the purchase price of these will have to be made good by charging more for the coal that is now being mined cheaply. Under nationalisation there will be one price only—the dearest.

Thirdly, State management means control by officials, not business men, and is always more costly and inefficient than private enterprise.

Lord Leverhulme states that under nationalisation "the cost of coal and railway fares, and the

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products of other interests that might be nationalised, would be enormously increased. The only way in which our industries could be protected from ruin as a result of the nationalisation of coal would be that we should have the option of importing coal from other producing countries."

Lord Gainford at Headlam speaks from actual first-hand experience of both systems—State management and private enterprise. Vice-chairman of Pease and Partners, Ltd., he was for some time Postmaster-General, and he told the Coal Commission that he was convinced "through actual experience as a director of collieries and a Minister of the Crown, that nationalisation would be nothing less than a disaster to the nation."

Let us see why. When a business man under private enterprise hits on a bright idea he is able as a rule to put it into practice without delay, and his firm gets the benefit.

According to Lord Gainford:—"When the head of any Government Department thinks that something ought to be done he makes a recommendation to the civil head of the Department. The civil head of the Department then sends up a written minute in the usual course to the temporary political head of the Department, and then there is a conference. . . . The head of the Department then directs the course which ought to be entertained—it may be a financial committee of the Cabinet, it may be to some official of the Treasury who deals with that departmental work, that branch of the Department." And so forth, and so on!

Charles Dickens satirised this system sixty years ago as the Circumlocution Office, and it has cost the nations millions since.

If we allow it to be applied to the Coal Industry it will cost us millions more, for it will mean Dearer Coal, and that spells death to the industry.

* * * *

I have been reading two articles on the United States coal trade one of the writers taking a diametrically opposite view from the other. The one says the coal fields of the United States are unexhaustible. While the other says that if consumption increases at an equal rate as of late, there will be little coal to quarrel over in two or three hundred years. A contributor to Sawards' puts it this way, taking as a legend "the cream of the coal has been mined."

But what I desire to impress upon you is that the coal supplies of this country are not inexhaustible, and that the years of life of our high grade coal fields are in fact already numbered. It must be borne in mind that in the production of the past the drain has been principally upon the high and medium grade coals, the exhaustion of sub-bituminous and lignite coals being not only relatively but actually insignificant.

As you are all aware, the high grade fuels are chiefly to be found in the Eastern border of the Appalachian system, the quality diminishing progressively westward, and these coals that lie on the eastern border of the Appalachians are most available for export trade. It is probably right and just that the United States should do its utmost to relieve the necessities of France and Italy, which have resulted from the world war, and it is probable for a while at least, in order to take care of the surplus production of our bituminous mines, the building up of trade with South America is advisable.

There is no doubt that Brazil, and some of the other countries of South America, want our coal, and we want some of the products of these countries, but whether it is wise in the long run permanently to supply the fuel needs of foreign countries is open to doubt. It has never seemed to me economically wise to export raw materials. A sounder principle is the utilization of raw materials at home, exporting the manufactured products, thus giving employment to more labor and adding to the material wealth of the country.

If we build up a foreign trade which will take care of the present surplus of bituminous coal, the light of past experience teaches that unless some restriction is exercised, only a limited period of time will elapse before the opening up of new mines would create an additional surplus to be taken care of and we would then be no better off than we are now.

Is it not the part of wisdom to work for the placing of such safeguards around the coal mining industry that will restrict the exploitation of new mines, in accordance with our necessities, rather than to waste our substance and endanger perhaps the future welfare of the nation?

A writer in a Nova Scotia paper declared recently that two thirds of the coal now being produced in the province was submarine. All I can say is "I hope not," for, if the coal in the land areas in C. B. is all but exhausted then Nova Scotia is going to come far far short of the quantity which the authorities estimate she possesses.

* * * *

Robert Baxter, familiarly known as "Bob" signalized his ascension to the presidency of the C. B. branch of the U. M. W. by a proclamation intimating that his reign would begin with the stern demand for a five day week and a six hour day.

President Workman of the Dominion Coal Co. took this proclamation philosophically and replied after this fashion: "All right Robert; I am quite willing. You see we are not working full time now and it takes a weight off the shoulders of all the officials to have you, by implication, declare that you do not blame us for being unable to work the collieries every day. Thank you, meantime, we will have a friendly chat once some of our ships are released by the government. Again thank you and permit me to express the opinion that there is more in your head than—ignorant people imagine."

Oh, that is all very good, but there is more to it. President Baxter may talk complacently of a thirty hour week, and President Workman may compliantly say "agreed" but what of the community? If a thirty hour week means lessened production, and coal possibly at increased prices then the community, the general public from one end of N. S. to the other, will be those who will have to pay the piper.

As president of a miners' union it is supposed that Mr. Baxter should be familiar, among many other things, with conditions, including days worked at the collieries. A study of the Mines Statistics, and if they are not reliable they are not worth publishing, shows, that if the days worked underground in two years, war years be it noted, when it is sup-

posed all workers should have been doing their best, be taken as a basis, the coal producers did not work five days a week. In the table for a recent year the average days worked per month is 19, equal to 228 days in the year or four and two-fifth day per week. Mr. Baxter's proposal will not tend to increased employment of returned men, nor will it do anything but take money out of the pockets of those presently employed.

♣ ♣ ♣

I have a letter from a C. B. Liberal in which he says that Sir Robert Borden's backbone is of the proper consistency. When our correspondent wrote several members of his party in parliament had not asked Sir Robert to exercise a little leniency with the Winnipeg postal strikers, and of course had not read Sir Robert's stern refusal, and the reasons for such refusal. Had he read this he would have added that certain liberal leaders had no backbone, and did not realize what true Liberalism stood for. As some of the Liberal papers are seemingly at sea as to what true Liberalism stands for I shall give an exposition culled from the pages of a staunch British Liberal paper. Of course liberalism in Britain is of a different brand than is common to Canada. Canadian liberalism is not what may be called distinctive; it is half this and half that, and at times half the other thing:—

"Liberalism must evolve a definite and distinctive Economic Policy. Liberalism has to stand for the supremacy of the communal interest in industry. Toryism stands for the rights of the capitalist; Labour stands for the rights of the worker. Liberalism has to stand for the rights of the public. The coal industry, for example, does not exist either for the sake of the magnates who want unfettered control and unlimited dividends or for the sake of the miners who want to eliminate the private monopolist in their own economic interests. Liberalism has to define its position in two directions—(1) as against the people who regard an industry as the private "property" of the folks who put their money into it—(2) as against the people who regard an industry as the private "property" of the folks who put labour into it. The former section would subordinate the Government of the country to "Big Business," while the latter would create a State whose chief function would be to mediate between contending Trades Unions. On these matters the Tories, the Socialists, and the Syndicalists have all a more or less defined attitude and policy, while Liberal thought is not so much fluid as chaotic."

In connection with the future use of oil on the ocean, it is of interest to note that the Emergency Fleet Corporation's program calls for a total of 1,300 cargo-carrying vessels equipped to burn oil. And in this connection it can be said that the broad adoption of fuel oil buyers by the U. S. Shipping Board was the outcome of prolonged observations as to the trend in other maritime nations.

Many coal men who do not fear that fuel oil will ever be a dangerous competitor of coal on land, except in the Southern States and along the Pacific coast, admit that it will play a much larger part in ocean transportation from now on than it has in the past.—Saward.

Around the Collieries.

Dom. No. 12 colliery is gradually increasing its output; 800 tons being hoisted one day recently.

Manager J. McIntyre, of Dom. No. 10, is relieving Manager John Munroe of Dominion No. 1, who is off resting.

Nothing daunted by his defeat, Mr. Byrne "wrote" at the yearly mining examinations. Mick is bound to know all about the mining profession.

When the new turbine being installed at Dom. No. 2 is complete there should be no more heard of want of power and hence no broken time from this cause.

John Moffatt spent a few days in Springhill recently, in connection with P. W. A. property there. Pioneer Hall saw many hard battles during its lifetime, and is much the worse of the wear.

A new electric turbine is being put in at Dom. No. 2. The one taken out was too small. All spring there was a power shortage, which of course affected the output of coal.

Development work in the New Waterford district is being pushed ahead, since the rates were adjusted. It was not before it was needed as places were scarce and the outputs, of course, low.

The Glace Bay Gazette announces that the staff of the Dominion No. 1 store will play a team of the Sterling. This shows the hold baseball is assuming, as the 'Sterling' is a metal mine in Richmond County.

The Herald says there is no bolshevism about Bob Baxter. The Record thought so too until we heard of a defence of Lenine and Trotsky Bob made at Sydney Mines.

With all his burdens Supt. A. J. Tonge still plays golf. Its the man who plays the game who wins out and with all the aftermath of war time problems it is good to get out into the open country and forget everything if only for a day.

A few days ago it was reported that boring was to be done at Gardner Mines. Immediately men began to see a large colliery plant at that place. These men didn't know or else they overlooked the fact that there are two collieries yet standing idle since the war, which could become producers when needed. These are Dom. No. 7 and 21, or the Hub and Victoria.

There was a paragraph a couple of weeks ago in one of the New York coal trade journals to the effect that a handsome automobile drove into the yard of one of the collieries. Out jumped a man, and making his way to the office asked where the automobile could be left. When permission was given to lodge it in the company's garage the other occupants of the carriage jumped out and trundled

out tools, piece cans and other accessories. The three were pit workers and the auto was their property. It looked like coming to work in state. We can match that in Nova Scotia. A Cape Breton correspondent writes:—

"The other day, over at Dom. No. 6, I noticed a car, or auto, in the wagon shed. On making inquiry I was told that a miner (a foreigner) and his two sons owned it and used it to drive to and from work; they lived at Bridgport a half dozen miles or more distant. Moral—What foreigners can do native should be able to do.

BRITISH COAL MINES COMMISSION.

No fewer than four reports of the Coal Commission, which has been considering the question of nationalization of British mines, have been published. The main report is signed by Justice Sir John Sankey. It alone recommends immediate legislation for acquisition of mines, royalties for the State, and for owners to receive just compensation.

It also recommends the immediate application of local administration of mines through local, district, and national mining councils and legislation for acquiring mines after the plan has been worked for three years, with just compensation for owners.

The report of the miners' representatives generally agrees with that of Justice Sankey, but objects to provisions that would require the men to sign a contract not to combine to cease work until a question in dispute has been before appropriate councils.

Responsibility for Decreased Output.

This report denies that the diminished output of coal is the fault of the men, and demands an immediate inquiry. The mine owners similarly request a hearing on the subject.

The three representatives of the miners, Messrs. Hodges, Millie, and Smith, object to compensation being given, apart from allowances where small royalty owners are deprived of their livelihood.

The owners' report argues that any form of nationalization would be detrimental to development of the industry and the economic life of the country. It says no action so vitally affecting the whole nation should be taken without referring the question to the community.

The report recommends the establishment of a department of mines which would be assisted by a system of councils, similar to those recommended by Justice Sankey. With a view to removing the difficulties arising from royalties, this report proposes that the State acquire ownership of the coal, subject to the continuance of existing leases for at least sixty years.

The fourth report, written by Sir Arthur Duckham, recommends State acquisition of the entire mineral rights of Great Britain and the establishment of a Ministry of Mines, with representation for labor on the Directorate.

As the proceedings of the Commission are of interest to very many of our readers, we give a summary of the two last sittings:

Mr. Balfour raised the question of the diminution of output, and said the matter was too serious to be left where it was. If the Commission was not a proper authority to investigate it, he thought it was the duty of the Coal Controller to institute an inquiry.

The Chairman agreed as to the importance of the matter. Whether the Commission would sit again after June 20 remained to be seen, but it was of the first importance that some kind of inquiry should be instituted into the whole qustion of the diminution of output.

When Mr. J. J. Prest, the manager of the Horden Collieries, Ltd., was called, the Chairman said the Commission had called him in consequence of a letter in which he wrote:

"We do not intend to build any more houses at any of our collieries, and for this decision you can thank Mr. Smillie and his friends."

The Commission, added the chairman, wanted an explanation.

The witness said that before the appointment of the Commission he had in his mind the building of 2,300 additional houses, of which 600 were actually built. The total capital expended at the Black Hall Colliery would then be £1,000,000. If that colliery were to be nationalised on the terms set forth by Mr. Straker they would receive as compensation £165,000.

Was it thinkable that a commercial man would dream of building additional houses if that was all the compensation he would get? During the last nineteen years they had spent on their collieries over ten millions sterling.

"If I am to be bought out on those terms," added the witness. "I am going to keep my money in my pocket. If I get fair and square terms I shall go ahead. I thought I should have finished my career by developing this well equipped and up-to-date colliery in the best possible manner.

In reply to Mr. Smillie, the witness said he was not going to build any more houses until he knew what the Government decision was with regard to nationalisation.

Mr. Hodges said he was very desirous that the misapprehensions with regard to compensation should be removed. In the bill presented by the Miners' Federation houses and all associated properties connected with the mines would be subject to a separate valuation.

Sir Richard Redmayne, chief technical adviser to the Coal Controller, recalled, was questioned by Mr. Cooper as to the grounds for his statement previously made that the ownership of minerals ought to be altered.

How many cases have come under your notice which have suggested to you that the ownership of minerals ought to be altered?—I cannot say offhand. It is round about a hundred.

"The question of barrier lines," Sir Richard added, "is of sufficient importance to warrant a change of ownership. The loss of coal amounts to tens of thousands of tons on that score alone."

Reduced Output: A suggested Cause.

Mr. Hodges said he would like to bring Sir Richard's attention to a report which a check-weigher submitted with regard to the declining output in his colliery, Pinkleton Colliery, Ashley Green. The report stated that the check-weigher had bombarded the management for reasons as to the shortage of tubs, which the men were constantly complaining

about.

Mr. Hodges spoke of other cases of tub shortage, and read the telegram he had received from Ashington and New Cummock Collieries, as follows:—

"Miners here only getting from three to four days per week on an average. Country crying for coal. Men willing to work, but cannot get work for want of waggons. A thousand men are affected every day."

Sir Richard said that the question of tubs was a trouble throughout the war, but the position was not nearly so acute now as it had been. "Honestly," he declared, "I don't think the insufficient supply of tubs is the cause of the decreased output." There were bound to be differences of opinion as to the cause; why not, then, let them be cleared up. The Coal Controller was perfectly willing, and Sir Richard suggested that the Coal Control Department should be asked to set up machinery to go into the question with the greatest possible care and detail, and put their information before the Commission.

He added that it was his belief that the wave of falling output followed an advance in wages, but he had so data.

"Then I challenge your belief," promptly replied Mr. Hodges, who went on to ask Sir Richard to institute a joint inquiry at once into the matters which he had brought forward.

The Witness: I shall be pleased to discuss with you or any representative of the miners the method by which an inquiry should proceed.

Mr. Hodges: It should be proceeded with immediately.

The Witness: The sooner the better.

In the course of the proceedings Mr. Justice Sankey said that Mr. Towney had drawn his attention to an anti-nationalisation resolution passed by the Grimsby Chamber of Commerce and Shipping, which said that the Coal Commission had no representatives of consumers amongst its members. The chairman said that he thought the resolution was passed under a misapprehension, since the Commission had invaluable assistance from two considerable consumers in Mr. Balfour and Sir Arthur Duckham.

Mr. Philip Gee, director of the Coal Association, which he said was formed about the third week in April, said he was responsible for a circular issued to the public containing the statement, "The consumer, who naturally desires a good supply of cheap coal, is not represented on the Commission." The witness was closely questioned, but maintained that his view was right.

Continued next issue.

PREFERENCE FOR OIL.

The Coal Trade Journal says: "In its plan, now before Congress for the sale to private interests of the entire government-owned merchant fleet, the Shipping Board recommends that all its coal-burning ships of 6,000 tons or less "which may be redundant or otherwise undesirable" be disposed of to such foreign buyers as may offer satisfactory prices. This seems to indicate that the Shipping Board purposes getting rid of coal-burners as far as may be practicable, not only insofar as government ownership is concerned but American ownership as well. Here is the paragraph in thier recommendation bearing upon this somewhat surprising point:

"The power to sell government-owned vessels should also include the power to sell to foreigners at prices not less than those charged American citizens, and on terms not more advantageous than those extended to American citizens, for similar vessels, such coal-burning steel ships, under 6,000 deadweight tons, as may be redundant, or otherwise undesirable in the American merchant service."

Lecturing at Cambridge on "Science and the War," Lord Moulton said that all explosions, with few exceptions, depended on the use nitrates, which could be made from the nitrogen of the atmosphere. Throughout the war Germany had made her own nitrates, and we had been handicapped because we had been dependent on Chile for our supply.

Judge Youmans in the U. S. District Court at Fort Smith, Ark., has set October 20 as the date for commencing the trial of the suit of the Pennsylvania Coal Mining Co. against the U. M. W. and others for $600,000 damages. This is known as the companion case to the suit of the Coronado Coal Mining Co. and others against the mine workers' union, in which judgment of $600,000 was returned against the miners.

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Synopsis of Coal Mines Regulations.

COAL mining rights of the Dominion, in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the North-West Territories and in a portion of the province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years, renewal for a further term of 21 years at an annual rental of $1 an acre. Not more than 2560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the district in which the rights applied for are situated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal sub-divisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory, the tract applied for shall be staked out by the applicant himself.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of $5 which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of five cents per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the Agent with sworn returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mined and pay the royalty thereon. If the coal mining rights are not being operated, such returns should be furnished at least once a year.

The lease will include the coal mining rights only, rescinded by Chap. 27 of 4-5 George V. assented to 12th June, 1914.

For full information application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or to any Agent or Sub-Agent of Dominion Lands.

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Mines Branch.

Recent Publications:

1 Summary Report of the Mines Branch for the Calendar Year 1917.

2 The Coal Fields and Coal Industry of Eastern Canada, by Francis W. Gray.

3 The Thin Coals of Eastern Canada, by J. F. K. Brown.

4 Annual Mineral Production Reports, by J. McLeish, B. A.

5 Analyses of Canadian Fuels, Parts I to V, by E. Stansfield, M. Sc., and J. H. H. Nicolls, M. Sc.

The Mines Branch maintains the following laboratories in which investigations are made with a view to assisting in the developing of the general mining industries of Canada:—Fuel Testing Laboratory, Ore-Dressing Laboratory, Chemical Laboratory, Ceramic Laboratory, Structural Materials Laboratory.

Application for reports and particulars relative to having investigations made in the several laboratories should be addressed to The Director, Mines Branch, Department of Mines, Ottawa.

R. G. McConnell, Deputy Minister.

Geological Survey.

Recent Publications:

Summary Report. The annual Summary Report of the Geological Survey is now published in parts. Applicants should, therefore, state what particular geologist's report is required, or what subjects they are interested in.

MEMOIR 20. Gold fields of Nova Scotia, by Wyat Malcolm.

MEMOIR 44. Clay and shale deposits of New Brunswick, by J. Keele.

MEMOIR 59. Coal fields and coal resources of Canada, by D. B. Dowling.

MEMOIR 60. Arisaig-Antigonish district of Nova Scotia, by M. Y. Williams.

MEMOIR 78. Wabana iron ore of Newfoundland, by A. O. Hayes.

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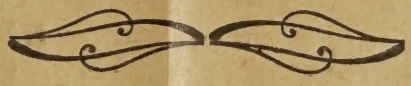

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